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Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 CPR-01 IO-10 PPT-01

SY-04 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /077 W
---------- 023999
R 241701Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8210
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03068

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, CONS, WG, EG, AU
SUBJECT: CONSULAR AGREEMENTS WITH GDR-FRG REPLY TO
GDR PROTEST

REF: BONN 1369

1. AT 21 FEB BONN GROUP MEETING FRG REP (KASTRUP)
PASSED ALLIED REPS TEXT OF FRG REPLY TO GDR NOTE
(REFTEL) OF 23 JAN PROTESTING BONN'S ALLEGED INTERFER-
ENCE WITH CONCLUSION OF CONSULAR AGREEMENTS BETWEEN GDR
AND THIRD STATES.

2. KASTRUP SAID THAT REPLY HAD BEEN DELIVERED THAT
MORNING BY MID-LEVEL CHANCELLERY OFFICIAL TO "POLITICAL
COUNSELOR" OF GDR PERMANENT REPRESENTATION IN BONN. FRG
INTENDED TO PUBLISH TEXT OF REPLY (WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY
APPEARED IN FRG MEDIA 22 FEB). GDR WAS INFORMED THAT
FRG HAD HOPED NOT TO DO SO BUT HAD NO CHOICE SINCE GDR
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HAD PUBLISHED TEXT OF THEIR PROTEST (ON 6 FEB BY GDR

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NEWS AGENCY ADN). NEVERTHELESS, FRG EXPRESSED TO GDR THE VIEW THAT IT WAS IN THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST NOT TO ESCALATE MATTER. COMMENT: FRG GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN BOELLING CLEARLY SOUGHT TO PLAY DOWN ISSUE AT FEB 7 PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE SAID THAT SINCE VERBAL REJECTION OF GDR NOTE HAD ALREADY BEEN MADE, WRITTEN REPLY WOULD NOT BE DISPATCHED "WITH ANY SPECIAL HASTE."

3. UK REP (CROMARTIE) INFORMED OTHER REPS THAT GDR HAD GIVEN LONDON COPY OF THEIR 23 JAN NOTE FOR INFORMATION, PROBABLY BECAUSE OF UK-GDR CONSULAR NEGOTIATIONS IN PROGRESS. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SAID PARIS HAD ALSO RECEIVED TEXT FOR INFORMATION, ACCORDING TO GDR BECAUSE FRANCE "ONE OF THE FOUR." FRENCH HAD RESPONDED TO GDR ON LINES OF RECENT SAUVAGNARGUES PRESS STATEMENT I.E. FRANCE WON'T MIX IN BILATERAL RELATIONS OR INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF FRG AND GDR BUT .THREE
ALLIES APPROVED FRG BASIC LAW. US REP SAID HE WAS UNAWARE WHETHER GDR HAD ALSO PASSED TEXT OF NOTE IN WASHINGTON.

4. TEXTS OF GDR NOTE AND FRG REPLY BEING POUCHED TO DEPT., USBER, AND AMEMBASSY BERLIN.

5. IN ITS JAN 23 PROTEST NOTE, THE GDR CHARGES THE FRG WITH ATTEMPTING TO MEDDLE WITH AND HINDER THE CONCLUSION OF CONSULAR AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE GDR AND THIRD STATES, MOST RECENTLY WITH AUSTRIA. IT CALLS THIS A "FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW" AND EXPRESSES THE VIEW THAT BONN'S STANDPOINT CONTRADICTS THE BASIC TREATY AND REPRESENTS INTERFERENCE IN THE GDR'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

6. THE FRG REPLY OF FEB 22 REJECTS THESE CHARGES AS ENTIRELY UNFOUNDED. IT DENIES INTERFERENCE WITH GDR FOREIGN RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA AND SAYS FRG DOES NOT OBJECT TO THIRD STATES CONCLUDING CONSULAR TREATIES WITH GDR. IT CONFIRMS FRG VIEW THAT FRG CONSULAR PROTECTION OF ALL GERMANS REQUESTING IT ABROAD DOES NOT CLASH WITH BASIC TREATY, WHICH DOES NOT REGULATE QUESTIONS CONCERNING CITIZENSHIP. IT CONCLUDES THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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DESPITE SUCH UNHELPFUL PRONOUNCEMENTS BY THE GDR, THE FRG WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE "TO DEVELOP RELATIONS AND BUSINESS-LIKE COOPERATION BETWEEN BOTH GERMAN STATES." HILLENBRAND

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